



# Battery Park City Authority

Report to Manhattan Community Board 1 – Battery Park City Committee

July 17, 2023

Presented by Nick Sbordone, BPCA

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**FIELDS OF GREEN:** Lee Fields mesmerizes the crowd during his July 13 *River & Blues* show at Rockefeller Park. Join us this coming Thursday, July 20, for Tamikrest, and on July 27 for Allison Russell.

## NEIGHBORHOOD & PROJECT UPDATES:

- I. **COVID-19 Vaccine** – Get vaccinated and stay up to date with all recommended doses.
  - All New Yorkers 6 months and older should [get vaccinated](#) and get their [booster dose](#) when eligible. If you are [experiencing symptoms](#) or were exposed, [get tested](#), and talk to your healthcare provider about [treatment](#) if you test positive.
  - Read the [updated recommendations](#) for the use of masks and face coverings that all healthcare settings in New York should follow during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
  - All travelers, [domestic](#) and [international](#), should continue to follow all CDC travel requirements.

## II. Air Quality Health Advisory

- Governor Kathy Hochul has issued air quality health advisories for the entire state as smoke from wildfires in Western Canada continues to negatively affect air quality across the region:
  - ✓ The forecast for the Lower Hudson Valley, New York City, and Long Island is expected to reach ‘Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups.’
- When AQI is greater than 100 (‘Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups’), New Yorkers in vulnerable groups should avoid exertion outdoors and watch for symptoms when exposed to the outdoors. Vulnerable individuals include those with cardiovascular disease (e.g., congestive heart failure, history of prior heart attack) or lung disease (e.g., asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), as well as children under 18, adults 65 and older, and pregnant people.
- [Check your air quality here.](#)

## III. KEEP THE FEEDBACK COMING: Virtual Input on North/West Battery Park City Resiliency Project Accepted through July 31, 2023 ([click here](#))



- On June 26, more than 230 attendees participated in our latest North/West Battery Park City Community Meeting, which provided valuable insights into the project's 30% Design milestone. The feedback received will be instrumental as we refine future design choices, and we hope that you found the information shared by our experts and the visualizations presented to be informative and engaging.
- Now let's keep the conversation going! [Using our online tool](#), you'll be able to review the meeting materials and share your feedback on the project's 30% design through **July 31, 2023**. Your involvement is crucial as we work toward creating a resilient future for our community and we greatly value your support and look forward to your continued participation.

Also re: NWBPCR Project work—

- BPCA to join Mayor's Office of Climate & Environmental Justice for Lower Manhattan Coastal Resiliency (LMCR) quarterly update at CB1 Environmental Protection Committee Meeting on **Monday, July 24**.
- [COMMUNITY NOTICE: Geotechnical Sampling Work](#)
  - ✓ Geotechnical sampling work to determine subsurface conditions at critical locations along the project area is underway through the coming months (read more above).
- Questions & feedback about NWBPCR can be sent to [nwbpcrinfo@bpca.ny.gov](mailto:nwbpcrinfo@bpca.ny.gov) or:  
 Battery Park City Authority  
 200 Liberty Street, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 New York, NY 10281  
*att: North/West BPC Resiliency Project Team*
- [Battery Park City Authority Gets Expanded Capacity to Fund Major Lower Manhattan Resiliency Projects](#) (*Gotham Gazette*)
- [More about NWBPCR here](#)

#### IV. South Battery Park City Resiliency Project

- Project construction underway; to be completed Spring 2025
- [Read the latest project construction update here](#) (July 7-July 21)
- Questions & feedback about SBPCR can be sent to:  
 Rick Fogarty, Community Construction Liaison  
[sbpcrinfo@bpca.ny.gov](mailto:sbpcrinfo@bpca.ny.gov) / (917) 624-5409; or by mail  
  
 Battery Park City Authority  
 200 Liberty Street, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 New York, NY 10281  
*att: SBPCR Project Team*
- [More about SBPCR here](#)

#### V. BPC Ball Fields Resiliency Project

- Battery Park City Ball Fields & Community Center Resiliency Project honored with the American Society of Civil Engineers *Sustainability Project of the Year* Award.



## VI. BPC Greenway Playscape

- Come out and enjoy this open space aimed at expanding opportunities for recreation and relaxation, [and please share your thoughts and feedback via our online survey here](#). We look forward to hearing from you – and we'll see you on the Greenway!
- Additional Resources:
  - ✓ [BPCA Launches Public Dialogue for Expanded Recreation Space in Battery Park City \(September 2022\)](#)
  - ✓ [Presentation to Manhattan Community Board 1 \(October 2022\)](#)
  - ✓ [Presentation to Manhattan Community Board 1 \(November 2022\)](#)
  - ✓ [Presentation to Manhattan Community Board 1 \(April 2023\)](#)



## VII. CCSHS Summer Schedule

- Summer hours began July 1 and continue through August with a new series of swim lessons for children and adults, and a comprehensive slate of tennis lessons, and more on offer! [Get your Summer 2023 class listing here](#).
- The Community Center at Stuyvesant High School, located at 345 Chambers Street, is a community resource operated by BPCA daily when classes are not in session, with deeply-discounted annual membership rates for BPC residents. Day passes are also available to all New Yorkers.



## VIII. Coming Up in BPC

- [BPCA's Summer 2023 Program & Event Guide](#) details a broad range of free programming across Battery Park City from May through August.
- [River & Blues – Thursday, July 20 & Thursday, July 27 @ Rockefeller Park](#). Join us every Thursday for world-class Blues-inspired music with these great upcoming acts:
  - ✓ July 20: *Tamikrest*
  - ✓ July 27: *Allison Russell*
- [Community Dance: Dance Party NYC – Saturday, August 5 @ 7PM @ Esplanade Plaza](#). On a single day, at partner sites across all five boroughs, thousands of New Yorkers will be dancing in a moment of mass joy and celebration. Come out to BPC's ultimate outdoor dance party — and let's all dance together!



- [Interludes: Brass Queens – Thursday, August 10, 6:30PM @ Belvedere Plaza](#). [Brass Queens](#) is an 8-piece brass band whose music is deeply inspired by the New Orleans tradition, which influences their sound that spans various genres. Hailing from Brooklyn, NY, the Brass Queens features an all-female horn section that strives to expand with the goal of expanding the space for women in a male-dominant industry.
- [Battery Dance Festival – August 12-18, 7-9PM @ Rockefeller Park](#). The Battery Dance Festival is New York City’s longest-running free public dance festival. Each year, the Festival draws a combined audience of over 12,000 in-person and over 35,000 virtual viewers.



#### IX. COMMUNITY REMINDER: Financial Assistance for Medicare Beneficiaries

- The New York State Office for the Aging [is urging income-eligible Medicare beneficiaries in New York to apply](#) for up to \$7,300 annually in financial assistance through an expansion in the Medicare Savings Program (MSP).
- The 2023 income eligibility limits are **\$2,280 for an individual** and **\$3,077 for a couple**.
  - ✓ An application is [available on the New York State Department of Health website here](#).
  - ✓ Visit <https://aging.ny.gov/medicare-savings-program> for more information, or call (800) 701-0501 for application assistance.
- BPCA’s dedicated “BPC Seniors” webpage provides information on events, news & services of interest to our local senior community: <https://bpca.ny.gov/bpcseniors/>



#### X. COMMUNITY REMINDER: Pet-Free Parks Lawns

- While leashed pets are permitted on hard surfaces throughout Battery Park City, they are not permitted on parks lawns.
- READ MORE: [It's a Dog's Life in BPC](#)





## XI. BPC Parks Happenings!

- BPCA's Parks Operations team focuses daily on a range of tasks to maintain BPC's world-class standards. Here are some examples of what's happening in July —
  - ✓ **Right Down the Middle:** Our Parks Operations team has completed plantings in the Route 9A median with a selection of native salt-tolerant plants that can withstand roadside conditions and provide habitat for pollinators.
  - ✓ **Spotted Lanternfly Management:** Our team is applying bird-safe sticky tape to trees throughout our parks to monitor the spotted lanternfly (SLF) population. These traps will assist in catching SLF nymphs before they reach adult stage later this summer. [Read more about BPCA's SLF management efforts here.](#)
  - ✓ **Still Seeping:** The Authority's finalizing the third permeable pavers pilot location along Rockefeller Park's north lawn, to be followed by our fourth and final location along South Esplanade Plaza. [Read more about this pilot program here.](#)
  - ✓ **Circle of Life:** Removal of dead or dying trees is taking place along River Terrace, to be replaced with new trees during this fall's planting season as part of [our partnership with the New York Power Authority.](#)
  - ✓ **No-Mow Maintenance:** The Parks Operations team is watering and weeding our new native no-mow lawn planting at Murray Triangle to ensure successful plant establishment.
  - ✓ **Waterworks:** Thrice-weekly watering of hanging baskets and newly planted trees will take place throughout the summer to ensure optimal plant health.
  - ✓ **Calling All Volunteers!** The team is looking for volunteers who would like to join us in completing gardening tasks like weeding, watering, and deadheading of plants. Contact [info@bpca.ny.gov](mailto:info@bpca.ny.gov) for a volunteer application and more info.
  - ✓ **Zero Waste:** As a decades-long leader in sustainability, BPCA is striving to divert 90% of what is sent to landfill! To continue helping toward our Zero Waste goal, we ask that you rethink what you throw away in the parks, and please recycle or compost items.



## XII. BPC Ball Fields REMINDER: Spring & Summer Hours

- BPC Ball Field hours are 8AM-9PM daily
- BPC Ball Fields: Open Play Hours for [July](#) & [August](#)

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS & STATUS UPDATES

### I. City of Water Day – July 15

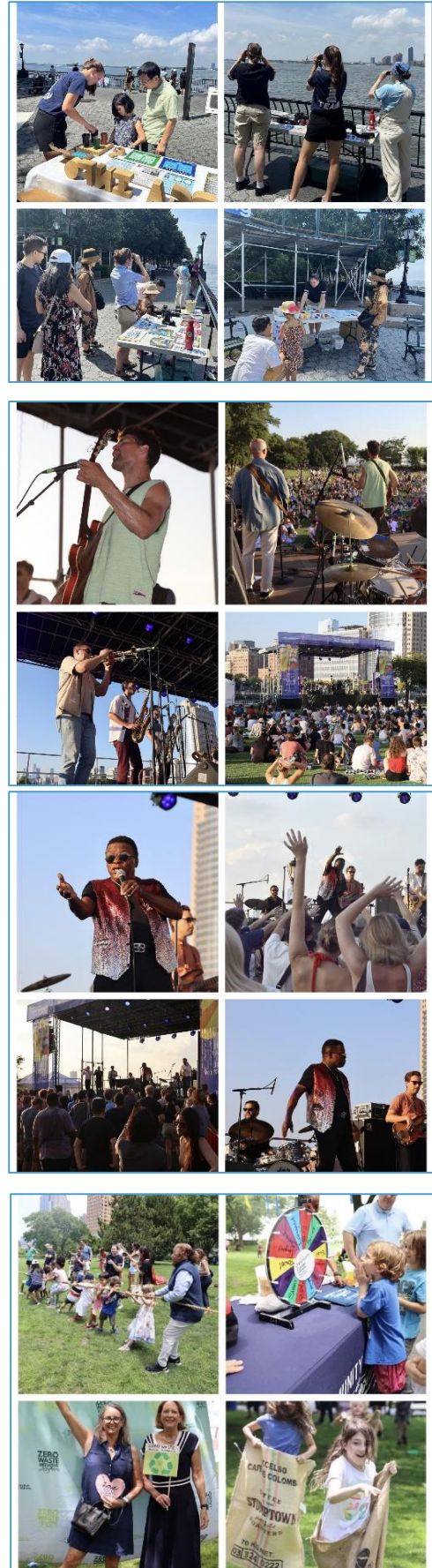
- *City of Water Day* is a free, harbor-wide celebration organized by the Waterfront Alliance and its partners to get people to, on, and in the water. As part of this celebration, BPCA's Parks Operations and Programming professionals conducted our latest Saturday Family Workshop about their innovative and ongoing work as environmental stewards.

### II. River & Blues – July 7 & 13

- Battery Park City's outdoor summer concert series continues wowing audiences in its new Rockefeller Park home – *The Dip* (July 7) and *Lee Fields* (pictured at right) on July 13.

### III. BPC Community Field Day – June 28

- With school officially out for summer it was one of the biggest parties of the year! Children of all ages took part in classic field day games, our annual tug-of-war and a clinic led by coaches from the New York Liberty – plus music from a live DJ and a special performance from the Church Street BPC Choir!





**IV. Swedish Midsummer Festival – June 23**

- This year's midsummer festival, marking BPCA's 25-year partnership with the Swedish Consulate in NYC, saw roughly 6,000 attendees celebrate the longest day of the year with traditional Swedish dances and music.
- SEE IT: [Scenes from Swedish Midsummer 2023](#)

**V. Juneteenth Celebration – June 19**

- Battery Park City's 7<sup>th</sup> annual Juneteenth Celebration, commemorating Emancipation Day in Galveston, Texas, included flag and bandana making, live music by Cecily Bumbray, and horseback riding with the Federation of Black Cowboys.
- SEE IT: [Juneteenth in the news](#)

**VI. P226M Graduation Ceremony – June 15**

- P226M is part of the Department of Education's District 75, a program comprised of 57 schools across the city providing functional and instruction support for students with significant learning challenges.
- Since 2016, BPCA has partnered with P226M – located in Battery Park City's Stuyvesant High School – to increase hands-on opportunities for students ages 18-21 across a range of the Authority's parks operations and horticultural practices.
- To date some 70 students have participated in this work readiness program – and we couldn't be more proud!

**VII. Silent Disco Pride Party – June 15**

- This Pride Month disco dance party at Esplanade Plaza featured Gotham Cheer and queer DJs from QuietEvents. Breathtaking sunset views and Lady Liberty served as backdrop to the beats pumped through light-up headphones.





**VIII. Learning about OMNY! – June 14**

- BPC Seniors learned about OMNY, the new contactless fare payment system for public transportation in the New York region. An MTA representative gave a brief presentation and took Q&A at 6 River Terrace.

**IX. Community Dance: Mambo – June 10**

- Again – there's no place like Esplanade Plaza for a community dance party! In celebration of Caribbean-American Heritage Month, Franck Muhel & His Mambo Dancers, accompanied by the Mitch Frohman Latin Jazz Quartet led a movement workshop followed by a live performance.

**X. Lost & Found Contact Information**

- Allied Universal Command Center  
200 Rector Place | (212) 945-7233 |  
[bpcallied@bpca.ny.gov](mailto:bpcallied@bpca.ny.gov)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING:****I. 2023 BPCA Board Meeting Schedule (subject to change)**

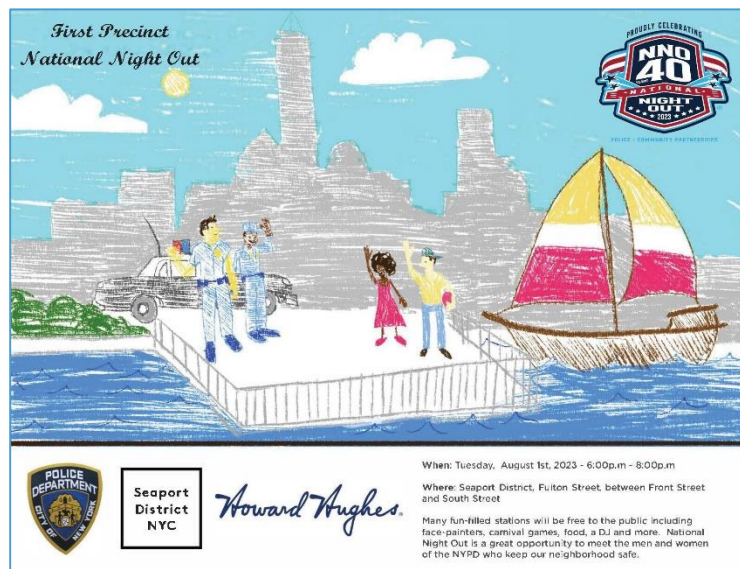
- BPCA Board meetings are conducted in-person at 2:00PM (unless otherwise noted) at 200 Liberty Street, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor on the following dates, and livestreamed here:  
[bpca.divacom munications.com/bpca-live](https://bpca.divacom munications.com/bpca-live)

<b>Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 16</b>
September 27
October 25
December 13

- Watch BPCA Board meeting webcasts [here](#)
- More information on our [Board Meetings & Materials](#) page

**III. NYPD First Precinct**

- National Night Out Against Crime: **Tuesday, August 1, 6-8PM @ Seaport District (Fulton Street btw Front & South Streets)**
- 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct Updates:  
[twitter.com/NYPD1Pct](https://twitter.com/NYPD1Pct)
- More info:  
[www.1stprecinctcc.org](http://www.1stprecinctcc.org)



**IV. NYPD Neighborhood Policing**

- [About Neighborhood Policing](#)
- Battery Park City's Neighborhood Coordination Officers are:

"Sector B" – BPC below West Thames Street

**P.O. Frank Jilling**

(212) 334-6462: O

(929) 213-2783: M

[Frank.Jilling@nypd.org](mailto:Frank.Jilling@nypd.org)

**P.O. Serge Jean**

(212) 334-6462: O

(929) 522-8409: M

[Serge.Jean@nypd.org](mailto:Serge.Jean@nypd.org)

"Sector C" – BPC above West Thames Street

**P.O. Thomas Nethaway**

(212) 334-6462: O

(929) 213-6313: M

[Thomas.Nethaway@nypd.org](mailto:Thomas.Nethaway@nypd.org)

**P.O. Eugene Uske**

(212) 334-6462: O

(917) 238-2330: M

[Eugene.Uske@nypd.org](mailto:Eugene.Uske@nypd.org)

**V. Upcoming Permitted Walks / Runs / Events**

Organization	Event Type	Event Date(s) & Approx. Time	Attendance	Street Closures?	Notes
MDS Foundation	Walkathon	Sun., August 27, 7AM-2PM	150	N/A	Esplanade Plaza
ZERO Prostate Cancer 5K	Walkathon	Sat., September 9, 7AM-2PM	350	N/A	Esplanade Plaza
Alzheimer's Foundation of America	Walkathon	Sun., September 10, 7AM-2PM	200	N/A	Esplanade Plaza

**BPCA – Allied Universal Quality of Life Statistics**

June 2022 vs. June 2023

TOPIC	2022	2023
Graffiti	50	2
Homeless	13	11
Lost / Found Property	24	11
Park Rules	64	24
Vendor / Solicitor	5	0
Dogs	24	3

